

can take because of the requirements of the Home Rule Act, and to end the unique applicability of the federal Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 to the District.

The Equality Act is uniquely comprehensive. Historically, when Congress has passed civil rights legislation, it typically has done so by category, whether in employment, or housing, or the rest. However, the Equality Act, encompassing all forms of typical discrimination, sends a special message. It is too late for anything except legislation that takes on discrimination against our LGBTQ community once and for all.

The Equality Act also fills a large space I have tried to fill ever since being elected to Congress. My work for the LGBTQ community has come naturally. As a lifelong fighter for equal rights, I have always seen congressional failure to address discrimination against the LGBTQ community as no different from congressional failure to bar segregation in the public schools I attended as a child in the District, or to address discrimination in voting rights and public accommodations I went to Mississippi to fight as a student in the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. The Equality Act stands for the impossibility of parsing discrimination. The history of discrimination in the United States teaches that all bigotry is unacceptable.

REAFFIRMING AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY OF INTERIOR TO TAKE LAND INTO TRUST FOR INDIAN TRIBES

SPEECH OF

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following article from The Washington Examiner regarding consideration of H.R. 375.

[From The Washington Examiner, May 13, 2019]

HOUSE DEMOCRATS RESCHEDULE VOTES ON TRIBAL BILLS PULLED AFTER TRUMP TWEET
(by Naomi Lim)

House Democrats have rescheduled votes on two Native American tribal bills this week after they were yanked from the floor at the last minute following pressure from President Trump.

Democratic leadership has set a vote for Wednesday on H.R. 312, legislation co-sponsored by Rep. William Keating, D-Mass., maintaining the status of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe reservation in the Bay State.

A second proposal, H.R. 375, introduced by Rep. Tom Cole, R-Okla., would reaffirm Interior Secretary David Bernhardt's authority to take land into trust on behalf of Indian tribes. That measure is also due to be considered Wednesday, but under a streamlined process requiring two-thirds support in the House. As such, it needs the backing of House Republicans.

"Both of the bills pulled from the floor of the House, H.R. 375 and H.R. 312, are important to Indian Country," Cole told the Washington Examiner in a statement on Monday. "I support both of the bills and look forward to working with my Republican and Democratic colleagues to pass them on the floor. I believe we will be successful in doing so."

But GOP lawmakers like Western Caucus Chairman Paul Gosar, R-Ariz., have said they will not help the legislation pass the chamber. A spokeswoman for Gosar told the Washington Examiner on Monday her boss, who sits on the House Natural Resources Committee with Cole, was "strongly opposed" to the proposals and would vote against them "in their current form."

"Gosar has been leading the charge against these bills since they were first brought up in Natural Resources Committee. He offered two amendments to both bills in committee—both failed," the spokeswoman said.

H.R. 312 and H.R. 375 were originally scheduled for votes on May 8, but were yanked after Trump tweeted that they would be "unfair" to Native Americans.

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe wants to build a \$1 billion casino on its land, but the deal has been delayed by the Interior Department and Rhode Island lawmakers worried the development will undercut profits generated by its own casino industry.

The opposition has resulted in the Massachusetts congressional delegation, including Democratic 2020 presidential candidate Sen. Elizabeth Warren, to push for the measure so the tribe can have full control of the reservation. Matt Schlapp, American Conservative Union chairman and husband of White House communications director Mercedes Schlapp, additionally runs a firm that lobbied against the casino.

"Republicans shouldn't vote for H.R. 312, a special interest casino Bill, backed by Elizabeth (Pocahontas) Warren," Trump tweeted last Wednesday. "It is unfair and doesn't treat Native Americans equally!"

Schlapp did not immediately respond to request for comment.

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOUSE PASSAGE OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of House passage of the 19th amendment to the United States Constitution—prohibiting the government from denying the right to vote to citizens on the basis of sex.

In the year of 1893, the first attempt to organize the Women's Suffrage Movement in the state of Texas took place in Dallas, with the formation of The Texas Equal Rights Association.

Twenty-six years later Texas became the first state in the south to ratify the 19th amendment. From raising families, to organizing political movements, to fighting over seas, our country could not thrive without the influence of so many strong and determined women.

It is with great admiration that I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the pioneering efforts of women 100 years ago that are still shaping our nation today.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE HONORABLE JOHN JAMES CONYERS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Honorable John J. Conyers, who celebrated his 90th birthday on May 16th.

Mr. Conyers is a distinguished public servant who represented the people of Michigan in the U.S. House of Representatives for 52 years. During his tenure, he held a number of reputable positions, including Chairman of the House Oversight Committee, Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, and the 44th Dean of the House of Representatives. Mr. Conyers was an effective legislator who was known among the Halls of Congress as champion of justice and judiciary issues.

As the longest-serving African-American member of Congress, Mr. Conyers was a trailblazer for civil rights during his time in Congress and is credited as one of the 13 original founders of the Congressional Black Caucus. He was the first to introduce a bill calling for the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. to be recognized as a national holiday dedicated to his life and legacy.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Conyers as he celebrates this momentous achievement. I also wish him many more happy birthdays in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted: "nay" on Roll Call No. 210; "yea" on Roll Call No. 211; "yea" on Roll Call No. 212; "nay" on Roll Call No. 213; "yea" on Roll Call No. 214; "yea" on Roll Call No. 215; "nay" on Roll Call No. 216; and "yea" on Roll Call No. 217.

THE HONORABLE DAMON JEROME KEITH

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, as the representative of the 30th District of Texas, I'd like to recognize the passing of The Honorable Damon Jerome Keith, Senior Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

Judge Damon J. Keith, one of the nation's longest-serving federal judges, was a tireless champion of civil rights and civil liberties. Born in Detroit in 1922, Judge Keith was the grandson of enslaved people. He went on to become the sixth African American in U.S. history to serve on the federal court of appeals. During his time on the bench, he made a series of landmark decisions that changed the social and legal landscape of the country.

Judge Keith graduated from West Virginia State College in 1943 before serving in a segregated army during World War II. He would go on to receive his J.D. from Howard Law School in 1949, pass the Michigan bar exam in 1950 and earn an L.L.M. from Wayne State University School of Law in 1956.

By 1967, Judge Keith was on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. By 1975, he was chief judge, and in 1977 he was nominated by President Jimmy Carter to succeed Wade McCree on the federal court of appeals.

Judge Keith's legacy was cemented when he famously ruled in 1971 that President Richard Nixon's Attorney General John Mitchell had to disclose the transcripts of illegal wiretaps Mitchell had authorized without first obtaining a search warrant. Judge Keith's decision was upheld by the Court of Appeals. The Supreme Court's landmark decision in *United States v. U.S. District Court* also known as "the Keith Case," contributed in 1978 to President Jimmy Carter signing the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA).

In one of the federal judiciary's longest and most prolific careers, Judge Keith was a fountainhead of regional rulings with national implications. He attacked racial segregation in education, housing and employment; conservative efforts to limit African-American voting; and after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, secret hearings to deport hundreds of immigrants deemed suspicious led by Attorney General John Ashcroft.

America is a better country because she had Judge Keith to help safeguard our civil liberties. I want to honor Judge Keith for his tireless commitment to providing equality and justice to all.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, May 21, 2019 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's record.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 22

9 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Closed business meeting to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2020.

SR-222

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2020 for the Department of the Interior.

SD-124

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine aging and disability in the 21st century, focusing on how technology can help maintain health and quality of life.

SD-562

9:45 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine legislation to address the risks associated with per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

SD-406

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Department of Defense

To hold closed hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2020 for the Missile Defense Agency.

SVC-217

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Daniel Aaron Bress, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Michael S. Bogen, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Michigan, Stephanie Dawkins Davis, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, Jason K. Pulliam, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas, Frank William Volk, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia, and David Austin Tapp, of Kentucky, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims.

SD-226

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold closed hearings to examine the reconciliation process in Afghanistan.

SVC-217

2 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 178, to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China, S. 249, to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organization, S. 1025, to provide humanitarian relief to the Venezuelan people and Venezuelan migrants, to advance a constitutional and democratic solution to Venezuela's political crisis, to address Venezuela's economic reconstruction, to combat public corruption, narcotics trafficking, and money laundering, S. 1340, to authorize activities to combat the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, H.R. 31, to require certain additional actions in connection with the national emergency with respect to Syria, S. Res. 74, marking the fifth anniversary of Ukraine's Revolution of Dignity by honoring the bravery, determination, and sacrifice of the people of Ukraine during and since the Revolution, and condemning continued Russian aggression against

Ukraine, S. Res. 81, calling for accountability and justice for the assassination of Boris Nemtsov, S. Res. 135, expressing the gratitude and appreciation of the Senate for the acts of heroism and valor by the members of the United States Armed Forces who participated in the June 6, 1944, amphibious landing at Normandy, France, and commending those individuals for leadership and bravery in an operation that helped bring an end to World War II, S. Res. 184, condemning the Easter Sunday terrorist attacks in Sri Lanka, offering sincere condolences to the victims, to their families and friends, and to the people and nation of Sri Lanka, and expressing solidarity and support for Sri Lanka, S. Res. 188, encouraging a swift transfer of power by the military to a civilian-led political authority in the Republic of the Sudan, the nomination of Jeffrey L. Eberhardt, of Wisconsin, to be Special Representative of the President for Nuclear Nonproliferation, with the rank of Ambassador, Department of State, and other pending calendar business.

S-116

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the economic impacts of the 2020 Census and business uses of Federal data.

CHOB-210

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy.

SD-106

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 123, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into a contract or other agreement with a third party to review appointees in the Veterans Health Administration who had a license terminated for cause by a State licensing board for care or services rendered at a non-Veterans Health Administration facility and to provide individuals treated by such an appointee with notice if it is determined that an episode of care or services to which they received was below the standard of care, S. 221, to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Under Secretary of Health to report major adverse personnel actions involving certain health care employees to the National Practitioner Data Bank and to applicable State licensing boards, S. 318, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish medically necessary transportation for newborn children of certain women veterans, S. 450, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to expedite the onboarding process for new medical providers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to reduce the duration of the hiring process for such medical providers, S. 514, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the benefits and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs to women veterans, S. 524, to establish the Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs, S. 711, to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for mental health services from the Department of Veterans Affairs to include members of the reserve components of